



Republic of Iraq
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Security Council Resolution 598 (1987)
20 July 1987

The Position of Iraq
A Comprehensive and
Lasting peace

Baghdad
September 1987



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Preface

The United Nation's Security Council adopted on 20 July 1987 resolution 598. Iraq welcomed the resolution.

On 23 July 1987, Mr. Tareq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicated the official position of the Government of Iraq to the United Nations' Secretary-General, Mr. Jafier Perez De Cuellar.

Further more, official statements have been issued at the highest levels of the government reaffirming Iraq's readiness to implement the resolution in good faith and in cooperation with the Security Council and the United Nation's Secretary-General.

This principled stance of Iraq stems from a sincere desire to establish peace with Iran in consonance with the rules of international Law and the United Nation's Charter.

As to the Iranian regime, it did not accept the resolution and issued a number of aggressive statements reaffirming its intention to continue the war and to deal with the resolution in a selective manner which reflects most clearly the Iranian regime's persistence in the course it has pursued, the course of continuing its war of aggression against Iraq.

The Iranian regime has also resorted to procrastination and prevarication in order to evade compiance with the resolution. This has been accompanied by the Iranian regime's continued perpetration of armed offensives against Iraq, bombardment of purely residential areas, and threats as well as actual acts of aggression against the Arab Gulf states.

In doing so, the Iranian regime has sparned the international will for peace, as expressed by security Council resolution 598 (1987).

This pamphlet contains the basic official documents defining the responible and unequinocal position of Iraq vis-a-vis resolution 598 and the manner of its enforcement .

Ministry For Forgein Affairs

**Quotations from the Statement of H.E. Mr. Saddam
Hussein President of the Republic of Iraq to a Group of
Iraqis Students residing in Kuwait on 29 August 1987**

Basically, Iraq realizes that war is, if you like, a state of emergency and not the natural law of life, although it may be required now and then, by life itself as a form of defending values, existence or sovereignty. It is in accordance with these criteria and in consonance with this course, pursued by Iraq for the achievement of peace, that we have responded positively to Security Council resolution 598, and have welcomed the resolution as one and indivisible. As to our agreement to the implementation of the resolution, that remains subject to Iran's agreement to implement it, in good faith, as one and indivisible.

Notwithstanding everything and regardless of the weakness or non-weakness of Iran, we believe in two immutable and basic principles: first, we are prepared to fight endlessly in defence of Iraq and defence of the security, honour, dignity and the very existence of the Arab nation. We do not accept direct or indirect encroachment upon these values; second, in the event of the acceptance of and compliance with these principles by the other parties, we accept, along with them, peace, regardless of their weakness or strength.

We have, accordingly, accepted resolution 598. However, the Iranians, as you must have heard them and as reported by news agencies, try to gain time in the hope that time will produce new factors under which they can continue their aggression.

On our part, and at the urging of nobody and not by way of positive response to the wishes or plans of anyone, we have

ceased the activities of our air force and navy against Iranian targets. This we have done out of our desire to let diplomacy play its role and to give others, including Iran, a chance to try political methods, since we are not keen on killing the thief but rather keen on preventing him from stealing.

But after we have given them all this time, which we believe to be sufficient, anyone desirous of accepting the resolution must have done some thinking and reasoning, and anyone searching for a cover-up must have had enough time to find a cover-up. In order that they may not continue to play their games and export their oil at will and buy with the money weapons for use against Iraqis, we will, from now on, strike at them at sea and rip all their economic arteries which enable them to commit military aggression. If they say they accept resolution 598 and are ready to implement it in good faith, we will give them a chance. If they fail to implement it in its entirety, speedily and in good faith, i.e. if they keep one Iraqi prisoner of war in captivity, we will order the Air Force to strike at them once again, and tell the army too to strike at them. Resolution 598 must be implemented in its entirety. We will not fall victim to the deception to which some Arabs fell victim in the past. The first paragraph of the resolution demands both a cease-fire and a withdrawal to the internationally recognized borders. Hence, we cannot accept merely a cease-fire and will continue to strike at the enemy. The cease-fire is part of

the process of facilitating the withdrawal and is meant to be for a short and specific period. If we give them that short and specific period and they fail to withdraw to the internationally recognized borders we will strike at them. If they withdraw to the internationally recognized borders but fail to return the prisoners of war we will strike at them too. Resolution 598 is one and indivisible.

In international circles there is some sort of concerntration, perhaps partly intentional and partly unintentional, on the advisability of our acceptance of a dialogue with the Iranians on the other points contained in the resolution if they accept a cease-fire. By so doing, they separate the cease-fire from the rest of resolution 598. This is very serious. Should this separation take place we would consider it to be directed against Iraq. The Iranians are required to accept the cease-fire and to withdraw to the internationally recognized borders and to implement all the other resolutions in good faith. This is the meaning of resolution 598. Any fragmentation of this resolution means that there is an intention to harm Iraq. Iraq will never accept such fragmentation.

Letter dated 23 July 1987 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I have the honour to refer to your letter dated 20 July 1987 and to inform you that the Iraqi Government has studied the text of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), adopted unanimously by the Council on 20 July 1987. The President of the Republic of Iraq has instructed me to transmit to you the position of the Iraqi Government, which is as follows:

1. The Iraqi Government welcomes the resolution and is ready to co-operate with you and with the Security Council so as to implement it in good faith with a view to finding a comprehensive, just, lasting and honourable settlement of the conflict with Iran.

2. On the basis of the contents of the resolution and its binding character under Chapter VII of the Charter, it is, of course, obvious that Iran's clear approval of the resolution, confirmed to you, and its clear readiness to fulfil its obligations there under, without any terms or conditions, in good faith and with serious intent, are essential for the fulfilment of the corresponding obligations which rest upon us. In that regard, I have set forth in paragraph I above our complete readiness to co-operate with you in

fulfilling those obligations in good faith with a view to finding a comprehensive, just, lasting and honourable settlement of the conflict.

3. In welcoming the resolution, the Iraqi Government proceeds from the premise that the text thereof is an integral and indivisible whole in respect of the contents, the time-limits and the measures for the implementation of all its paragraphs, and in particular from the premise of immediate and mutual advantage from its implementation to all the parties concerned.

4. The Iraqi Government takes the expression “without delay”, which appears in paragraph I of the resolution, to mean that the withdrawal shall be completed within a period not exceeding 10 days from the date of the general cease-fire. The determination of this period derives from the precedent of the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Iranian territory, which was effected within 10 days, between 10 and 20 June 1982, even though that withdrawal was unilateral and took place in the absence of a cease-fire from the other side.

5. The Iraqi Government takes the expression “Without delay”, which appears in paragraph 3 of the resolution and concerns

6. The Iraqi Government is ready to co-operate with you sincerely in the mediation efforts entrusted to you in order to achieve a comprehensive, just and honourable settlement in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations.

The Iraqi Government will submit its proposals and define its position on other pending questions when negotiations commence concerning the comprehensive settlement, as called for in the resolution of the Security Council.

the release and repatriation of prisoners-of-war, to mean that the prisoners shall be released and repatriated within a period not exceeding eight weeks from the date of the cease-fire. Furthermore, the Iraqi Government understands that this operation shall, in accordance with the third Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949, be effected in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and that this is a humanitarian and moral question having no connection in any way with the negotiations on other matters pending between the two countries.

7. Iraq understands that, as soon as the cease-fire begins, it

will be able to utilize its ports, its coasts and its internal and territorial water and also that it will be able to enjoy, on a footing of equality with Iran, freedom of navigation in the international waters of the Arabian Gulf.

8. With regard to the provisions of paragraph 6 of the resolution, the Iraqi Government wishes to emphasize that it is ready to engage in consultations with you concerning the inquiry into responsibility for the conflict and its protraction and concerning the body to which this task should be entrusted.

9. The Iraqi Government welcomes the contents of paragraph 8 concerning measures to enhance the security and stability of the region, and proposes that, in the stage following the establishment of peace between Iraq and Iran, you convene a meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States of the Arabian Gulf under your auspices, to study ways and means of guaranteeing security, stability, and the freedom of international navigation in the region of Arabian Gulf, on the basis of full respect for the sovereignty of the States concerned, non-intervention in each other's internal affairs and observance of the provisions of international law.

10. Lastly, the Iraqi Government, in keeping with the nature

of the resolution adopted by the Council and in the light of the strong desire of the international community to bring about peace as a matter of urgency, hopes that the period of time required for the submission of your report to the Security Council on the implementation of the resolution, in pursuance of paragraph 9, will be short so as to prevent any procrastination or delay from any quarter whatsoever.

Circulated as S.C document No S/19045

**Letter Dated 10 August 1987
from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-
General of the United Nations.**

I have the honour to inform you that, since the unanimous adoption by the Security Council of resolution 598 (1987) on 20 July 1987, the Iranian armed forces have perpetrated the following acts of armed aggression against Iraq:

- 20 July:** Two armed attacks against the southern Majnoon field and an armed attack against the Iraqi coast at Hawr Al-Hawizah.
- 21 July:** an armed attack by three units in the southern Majnoon field.
- 23 July:** an armed attack against the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 26 July:** an armed attack against the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 3 August:** an armed attack against the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 4 August:** an armed attack against the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 5 August:** an armed attack in the region of Qala Diza.
- 6 August:** an armed attack in the region of Qala Diza.
- 7 August:** an armed attack in the region of Chwartah.
- 7 August:** an armed attack against the southern Majnoon field.

In addition to these acts of armed aggression, the Iranian armed forces shelled the following purely civilian population centres during the same period:

Date	Name of region	Casualties and damage
20 July 1987	Basra	1 wounded
23 July 1987	Basra	1 wounded
23 July 1987	Baymalik housing complex, Qala Diza	7 wounded, including 3 women, and some houses damaged
24 July 1987	Basra	some houses damaged
27 July 1987	Qala Diza	7 killed and 5 wounded
27 July 1987	Qazaniyah	2 wounded and 1 house damaged
29 July 1987	Basra	
29 July 1987	Basra (at night)	
31 July 1987	Hawr al-Zubayr	
1 August 1987	Baymalik housing complex, Qala Diza	1 killed and 9 injured, and some houses destroyed
3 August 1987	Basra	some houses damaged
5 August 1987	Qala Diza	2 wounded and some houses damaged
7 August 1987	Basra	

As you and the States Members of the United Nations, particularly the members of the Security Council, are aware, the officials of the Iranian régime, at all levels, who are regarded under international law as authorized to represent the Iranian Government in its international relations, have stated, through the various information media, their unequivocal refusal to comply with Security Council resolution 598 (1987), while, at the same time, they have persisted in acts of armed aggression against Iraq.

This constitutes categorical proof of the continuation of the Iranian war of aggression against Iraq, which makes it incumbent on you and the members of the Security Council to draw the conclusions that follow from this continuation in the light of the provisions laid down in Security Council resolution 598 (1987), which, under the Charter of the United Nations, has binding force.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq, which welcomed the above-mentioned resolution and expressed its full readiness to fulfil the obligations imposed by its provisions, affirms on this occasion that tardiness in drawing the obvious conclusions in the context of the implementation of the resolution tends to give the Iranian Government which rejects the resolution the preprogrative at continuing its war of aggression against Iraq, in spite of the

binding provisions contained therein and approved unanimously by the Security Council.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq, which sincerely seeks peace and which has so far exercised the highest possible degree of self-control, must, in accordance with the provisions of international law relating to self-defence, take all available measures to protect the security and integrity of the country and the lives of Iraqi citizens, and it expects you and the Security Council to assume responsibility immediately, under the Charter of the United Nations, for the implementation of the provisions of Security Council resolution 598 (1987).

Circulated as S.C document No S/19027

Letter Dated 16 August 1987 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I have the honour to inform you, further to my letter of 10 August 1987 (contained in document S/19027), that the Iranian armed forces have since that date perpetrated the following additional acts of armed aggression against Iraq:

- 7 August: an armed attack on the region east of Halabjah.**
- 8 August: an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.**
- 10 August: an armed attack on the deep-water port.**
- 12 August: two armed attacks on the deep-water port and an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.**
- 14 August: an armed attack on the deep-water port.**
- 15 August: an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.**

In addition to these acts of aggression, the aforementioned forces shelled the following purely civilian population centres in Iraq during the same period:

Date	Region	Casualties and damage
7 August	Basra	Damage to some houses and property
9 August	Basra	Damage to some houses and property
9 August	Baymalik housing complex, Qala Diza	3 killed, including 1 woman, and 5 wounded, including 1 woman and 3 children (all civilians)
11 August	Basra	4 wounded (all civilians) and 1 civilian vehicle damaged
	Qala Diza	Damaged to some houses and property
13 August	Baymalik housing complex, Qala Diza	1 civilian wounded
15 August	Qala Diza	Damage to some houses and property
	Al-Uzair	Damage to some houses and property

The total number of acts of aggression carried out by Iran against Iraq since the date on which Security Council resolution 598 (1987) was adopted is thus as set forth in the annex.

In this connection. I should like to make the following points:

1. Security Council resolution 598 (1987) is a binding resolution. The fact that it is binding imposes upon those to whom its provisions are addressed the obligation of unconditional compliance therewith. It also imposes upon members of the Security Council the obligation to apply the resolution in letter and in spirit, in an integrated and coherent manner, and to reject any manner of selective approach to its clauses. Quite clearly, any statement to the contrary will strip the resolution of the binding force it has on the two parties, as well as on the Security Council-both as a body and in terms of its individual members-and on the other Members of the United Nations.

2. The Iranian response submitted to you on 11 August 1987 constitutes a rejection of the aforementioned binding resolution. There is no legal basis for the admission of any other conclusion. The Iranian response, in several places, unequivocally states its rejection of the resolution. It also represents a form of selective approach to the clauses of the resolution, in a blatant resumption of the practice followed by Iran in its approach to the conflict before the resolution's adoption. The aim behind that practice is to continue the war, despite its condemnation by the Security Council and the international community and their insistence on a

comprehensive approach to the conflict and a comprehensive settlement.

3. Iraq is surprised by some of the deliberations taking place in the conference rooms of the United Nations, which are reviving ideas that elements of the conflict should be dealt with separately or suggesting that attempts should be made to fragment implementation of the resolution. It is also most surprising that attempts should be made during the said deliberations to promote a precedent whereby a State may “not have accepted” or “not have rejected” a binding Security Council resolution-without any legal basis-as this would represent the establishment of a dangerous precedent in the United Nations. We should like to inform you that Iraq categorically rejects this practice and this approach. We consider that practice and that approach to be incompatible not only with the legally binding nature of the resolution but also with the essence and the spirit of its text and with the expressed will of the international community.

4. The attempts, currently being made without any legal or logical basis, to characterize Iran’s position in a manner which is at odds with the reality of its rejection of the resolution are in fact having the effect of encouraging the Iranian régime to be more stubborn and more insistent on pursuing war and aggression and spreading terrorism and subversion in the region. The subversive acts carried out by the Iranian régime in Makkah 11 days after the

Security Council resolution was adopted provide clear evidence of this, as does its laying of mines in the Gulf region. Those who gloss over the Iranian position and advance excuses and pretexts for it are, rather than serving the cause of peace, encouraging the aggressor in his aggression and encouraging the régime, which scorns international law and the rules of international behaviour and has no respect for international organizations, to persist in a policy which has brought catastrophes upon the region and whose effects have also been felt in other regions of the world. The seven years of Iranian aggression against Iraq and the catastrophes which have resulted provide more than sufficient evidence that it is time for such approaches, which have not yielded any positive outcome, to be set aside. The enormous dangers facing the region should be sufficient in themselves to make such people abandon futile attempts, which have been made many times in the past to no avail. The Iranian régime quite openly gives the lie to the explanations and excuses advanced on its behalf by certain circles and continues with its agenda of aggression, war being the chief item on that agenda. The annex enclosed herewith, which includes the final paragraph of the latest speech by Khamenei, the President of Iran and Chairman of the Supreme Defence Council, on Friday, 14 August, 25 days after the adoption of the Security Council resolution, provides conclusive proof of our assertion.

5. We affirm once again our call for the application without delay of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the Iranian régime in view of its rejection of the binding resolution adopted by the Security Council (resolution 598 (1987) of 20 July 1987), its determination to pursue war and aggression and to continue spreading subversion, disorder and instability in the region, its disgraceful attitude to the Security Council and its defiance of the will of the international community.

Circulated as S.C document No S/19049

1. Iranian acts of armed aggression against Iraq and shelling of purely civilian population centres in Iraq since the adoption of Security Council resolution 598 (1987) of 20 July 1987

- 20 July:** two armed attacks on the southern Majnoon field and an armed attack on the Iraqi shore at Hawr al-Hawizah.
- 21 July:** an armed attack by three units on the southern Majnoon field.
- 23 July:** an armed attack on the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 26 July:** an armed attack on the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 3 August:** an armed attack on the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 4 August:** an armed attack on the Iraqi deep-water port.
- 5 August:** an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.
- 6 August:** an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.
- 7 August:** an armed attack on the region of Chwartah.
- 7 August:** an armed attack on the southern Majnoon field.
- 7 August:** an armed attack on the region east of Halabjah.
- 8 August:** an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.
- 10 August:** an armed attack on the deep-water port.
- 12 August:** two armed attacks on the deep-water port and an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.
- 14 August:** an armed attack on the deep-water port.
- 15 August:** an armed attack on the region of Qala Diza.

Shelling of population centres

Date	Name of region	Casulties and damage
20 July 1987	Basra	1 wounded
23 July 1987	Basra	1 wounded
23 July 1987	Baymalik housing complex, Qala Diza	7 wounded, including 3 women, and some houses damaged
24 July 1987	Basra	Damage to some houses
27 July 1987	Qala Diza	7 killed and 5 wounded
27 July 1987	Qazaniyah	2 wounded and 1 house damaged
29 July 1987	Basra	
29 July 1987	Basra (at night)	
31 July 1987	Khawr al-Zubayr	
1 August 1987	Baymalik housing complex, Qala Diza	1 killed and 9 wounded, and some houses destroyed
3 August 1987	Basra	Damage to some houses
5 August 1987	Qala Diza	2 wounded and some houses damaged
7 August 1987	Basra	

7 1987	August	Basra		Damage to some houses and property
9 1987	August	Basra		Damage to some houses and property
9 1987	August	Baymalik complex, Qala Diza	housing	3 killed, including 1 woman, and 5 wounded, including 1 woman and 3 children (all civilians)
11 1987	August	Basra		4 wounded (all civilians) and 1 civilian vehicle damaged
		Qala Diza		Damage to some houses and property
13 1987	August	Baymalik complex, Qala Diza	housing	1 civilian wounded
15 1987	August	Qala Diza		Damage to some houses and property
		Al-Uzair		Damage to some houses and property

2. Final paragraph of the speech made by Khamenei, President of Iran and Chairman of the Supreme Defence Council, on Friday, 14 August 1987

“Young people must be prepared and must be ready and waiting on the fields of battle and at any place where war and mobilization officials want them to be in action. They must be trained well. The flow towards the fronts must not stop even for a moment, because our principal and most important task is the war, on the fronts and on our borders, between the aggressor Iraqi régime and the forces of Islam, and there lies the basis of our task... When the decisive blow is dealt there, the enemy will be disarmed on all political, economic and military fronts... So we must marshal our forces and, with God’s help, aim decisive blows one after another. Military leaders must be on constant alert and have the necessary forces always at their disposal.”

Circulated as S.C document /S/ 19049

**Statement Of H.E.Mr. Tariq Aziz
Deputy Prime-Minster and Minster for Foreign Affairs
on 29 August 1987 relates to current developments and
specially the consultations underway in New York
concerning the position of the Iranian regieme on the
Security Council resolution 598 (1987).**

Commenting on the current developments, particularly with regard to the deliberations now in progress in New York on the position of the Iranian regime towards resolution 598, Mr. Tareq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, made the following statement to the Iraqi News Agency:

Forty days have now gone by since the adoption of Security Council resolution 598

In the deliberations preceding the adoption of that resolution, views were expressed among the permanent members of the Council on allowing the two parties involved a respite of between thirty to forty days to decide their official and unequivocal positions vis-a-vis the Security Council resolution.

Iraq conveyed its official and unequivocal position to the United Nations Secretary General three days after the adoption of the resolution.

As to the Iranian regime, it resorted to procrastination, prevarication and manoeuvring. The Iranian regime is playing this game in New York in the deliberations with the Secretary

General and with some members of the Council as well as in some capitals. In Teheran, however, the leaders of the regime declare unequivocally that the continuation of aggression is their first and foremost cause. This is the real stance of Iran.

We warn strongly against dealing with the Iranian game of procrastination, prevarication and manoeuvring. Those who insist on dealing with this game not only do a disservice to the cause of peace but actually contribute to the prolongation of the war and contribute to encouraging the Iranian regime to defy the will of the international community.

We believe it is high time a movement was made to the next phase of the resolution. Any procrastination in this regard is completely unjustified.

We must emphasize an important point which some quarters have tried to shroud with ambiguity. Some circles have come to consider the possibility of Iran agreeing to a ceasefire as a substantive step in the implementation of the resolution. Iraq's interpretation of the resolution is completely different: Iran's acceptance of only the cease-fire is not considered by Iraq as an acceptance of the resolution, and consequently does not entail any obligations to Iraq. Acceptance of the resolution means acceptance of the entire resolution and Iran's readiness to implement it in its entirety. It should be recalled in this connection that the first paragraph of the resolution covers not

only a cease-fire but also an immediate withdrawal to the internationally recognised borders, and that any Iranian agreement to a cease-fire which does not include an official and unequivocal agreement to immediate withdrawal and to the rest of the paragraphs of the resolution, particularly to the release and full exchange of the prisoners of war, will not bind Iraq to anything. Either the implementation of the resolution in its entirety, or things will stand as they are.

Given this position on our part, it is only natural for us to reject categorically dealing with any attempts, promoted by the Iranian regime and some circles, at fragmenting the dispute.

29 August, 1987.

Letter dated 29 August 1987 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

You are well aware of Iraq's favourable response to the initiative announced by you on 13 January 1987, whereby the Security Council was to examine, at a high political level, the question of ending the war between Iran and Iraq. It is also well known that Iraq has shown Sincere interest in and appreciation of the initiative by premanent members of the Security Council to bring about a comprehensive settlement of the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq based on the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. Iraq readily entered into contacts with the five permanent members and other States members of the Council, both directly and through the League of Arab States, with a view to expressing its interest and putting forward constructive ideas on the question. When the basic elements of the draft resolution drawn up by the five permanent members became known and the question was discussed by all the members of the Security Council, Iraq took a constructive and active part in the discussions.

When Security Council resolution 598 (1987) was adopted on 20 July of this year, Iraq did not hesitate to welcome it. On 23 July 1987, I personally talked with you at United Nations headquarters in New York and informed you of Iraq's position in

my letter dated 22 July 1987.

Official statements were issued at the highest levels of the Iraqi Government welcoming the resolution and expressing Iraq's willingness to implement it in good faith, in co-operation with the Security Council and yourself.

It should be emphasized that Iraq's favourable response to this resolution derives from its firm position of principle in wishing to bring about peace with Iran in accordance with the precepts of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. It is no secret that Iraq has reaffirmed this position ever since the Iranian regime launched its aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980. It has expressed its position by welcoming the resolutions and calls issuing from the Security Council and yourself and by means of its sincere and constructive co-operation with the Council and yourself in efforts to bring about peace.

It should also be made clear that resolution 598 (1987) does not entail any particular gains for Iraq, other than the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in accordance with the precepts of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. Furthermore, the members of the Security Council are all aware that the views and attitudes of the other party were taken into consideration when the resolution was drafted, to the extent that some members of the Council even made strenuous efforts to accommodate in the draft Iranian attitudes which were neither legitimate nor logical, without obtaining any prior guarantees that Iran would accept the resolution.

Forty days have now passed since the Security Council resolution was adopted, and the only objective assessment of Iran's position with respect to the resolution can be that Iran has rejected it. As I mentioned to you previously in my letters dated 10 and 16 August 1987 (documents S/19027 and S/19049), there is no legal basis for any other interpretation of the Iranian position. The official Iranian response transmitted to you on 11 August 1987 unequivocally states, in several places, its rejection of the resolution. It also represents a form of selective approach, in a blatant resumption of the practice followed by Iran in its approach to the conflict before the resolution's adoption, i.e. with the aim of continuing the war. That practice has been condemned by the Security Council and the international community, which have insisted on a comprehensive approach to the conflict and a comprehensive settlement. I also stated quite clearly that the binding nature of resolution 598 (1987) imposes upon members of the Security Council the obligation to apply the resolution in letter and in spirit, in an integrated and coherent manner, and to reject any form of selective approach to its clauses. Any statement to the contrary would strip the resolution of the comprehensive and binding force it has on the two parties, as well as on the Security Council- both as a body and in terms of its individual members- and on the other Members of the United Nations. In addition, I noted how very surprising it was that attempts should be made to promote a notion whereby a State may at the same time "not have accepted" and "not have rejected" a binding Security Council resolution- such a notion

being devoid of any legal basis- and I also noted that it would establish a dangerous precedent in the United Nations.

I reaffirm on this occasion that Iraq categorically reject the tendentious and subjective logic whereby Iran's position is interpreted as not constituting a rejection of the resolution. The fact that the Iranian Government has not officially announced its "acceptance" of the resolution and willingness to implement it in full constitutes a de facto "rejection". The recent contacts between Iranian representatives on the one hand and Yourself and various members of the Council on the other hand substantiate this conclusion and also confirm that the Iranians are employing the tactics of procrastination and delay. It is our belief that the Security Council did not adopt this resolution, which has binding force under Articles 39 and 40 of the Charter, simply for it to be "studied" ad infinitum by the two parties. Our view- and the view of all unbiased parties is that the resolution was adopted with a view to being implemented quickly, and that the meaning of the resolution's provisions in their entirety, and particularly of paragraph 10, is quite clear.

Following the adoption of the Security Council resolution on 20 July, the Iraqi Government saw fit- as a mark of its appreciation of the Council's efforts to bring about peace in the region- to reduce the Iraqi armed forces' military activities at sea, on land and in the air, apart from urgent cases involving a need to defend the homeland. When I met with you on 23 July, you expressed the wish to see military operations reduced, with a view to facilitating your task of implementing the Security Council

resolution. Similar wishes were also expressed to us by a number of States members of the Council.

As a mark of the esteem in which it holds yourself and the Security Council and in appreciation of its relations of friendship and mutual respect with members of the Council, Iraq took serious heed of these wishes. despite the grave disadvantage to which Iraq was subjected- which has not been denied by any of the States that have been in contact with us- Iraq throughout this period pursued a policy of self- restraint, It refrained from attacking Iranian interests on land for a period of 24 days, and at sea for a period of 45 days, with effect from 15 July 1987, despite the fact that those interests constitute the basic source of finance for the war machine of Iranian aggression. It was our sincere and objective desire that we should give you every proper opportunity to investigate the other party's position with respect to the resolution and to persuade that party to accept the resolution and to work towards its implementation.

Forty days have now passed since the adoption of the Security Council resolution, and the Iranian régime has during this period carried out 23 acts of armed aggression against Iraqi territory, 47 shelling operations against cities, villages and purely residential targets in Iraq and, in particular, Iran carried out 10 acts of aggression against Iraqi naval installations, as detailed in the appendix to this letter. The Iranian régime continues to beat the drums of war and to call for more aggressive operations against our country and is even preparing, as in previous years, to launch massive attacks with the aim of occupying and destroying

Iraq, as is indicated by the statements of senior Iranian officials. The war of aggression conducted by the Iranian régime against the Iraqi people and the Iraqi armed forces continues even more fiercely, despite the adoption of Security Council resolution 598 (1987).

In view of the Iranian régime's persistence in its acts of aggression against Iraq and its continued rejection- as is now manifestly clear- of Security Council resolution 598, and in view of the enormous threats to Iraq's security and sovereignty and the lives of its citizens, there is no longer any justification for refraining from attacks on Iranian interests which serve that country's war effort. Any calls for a halt to attacks on those interests translate, in practical terms, into service of the war effort of Iranian aggression against Iraq and the countries of the region.

The fact that Iran is quite freely managing to make use of its interests in the Gulf means, in practical terms- as has been demonstrated by the experience of seven years of continuous aggression against our country- that the necessary funds are made available to operate the war machine of Iranian aggression, and thus to kill more Iraqis, to occupy more Iraqi territory and to increase tension and insecurity in the region. No responsible Government can accept that.

Members of the Council and the international community are well aware that Iran has endeavoured, and continues to endeavour, to distinguish between different aspects of the war. It has been calling for a halt to Iraqi attacks on Iranian interests in the Gulf while insisting on continuing the war against Iraq. Iraq

has refused to make such distinctions and so has the international community, as demonstrated by resolution 598, which calls for a comprehensive settlement of the war. If Iraq were to continue to refrain from attacking Iranian interests in the Gulf, this would translate in practical terms into achievement of the aims of the aggressor Iranian régime. Iraq, which accepted the Security Council resolution because it called for a comprehensive settlement of the conflict and respected the will of the international community, cannot accept a situation which could lead to the drawing of de facto distinctions between aspects of the conflict and could provide a major reward to the party which deliberately pursues war, aggression and subversion in the region, rejects the Security Council resolution and defies the will of the international community. Such a situation is fundamentally inconsistent with Security Council resolution 598 and with the desire, expressed by the international community, to bring about a comprehensive settlement of the war.

It is our hope that you and friendly States members of the Council with whom we have amicable relations will understand and support our legal, logical and practical position.

Efforts must be made, unequivocally and without delay, to put pressure on the aggressor to refrain from aggression and to respect the will of the international community, as represented in resolution 598.

Quick and decisive action must also be taken to apply the provisions of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to the Iranian régime, in view of its rejection of Security Council

resolution 598 and its defiance of the will of the international community. A self-evident consideration, which has been made clear in many ways to members of the Council, to yourself and to the international community, is that since Iraq is subjected constantly to Iranian aggression it will strike in return- in accordance with the recognized principles of international law concerning exercise of the right to legitimate defence- at Iranian interests which may, by virtue of international law and custom, be attacked in the event of armed conflict. The military activities of the Iraqi armed forces in the Gulf region will continue, as in the past, to be restricted to those interests.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq believes that Iraq's activities, which are justified and supported by international law and custom, have no bearing on the principle of freedom of navigation in international waters, a principle which Iraq, by nature of its position as a geographically disadvantaged country under the provisions of the international law of the sea, respects and does its utmost to uphold.

Addendum

The enclosure to the letter dated 29 August 1987 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary- General (s/19083. Annex),

Date		Region	Casualties and damage
22 August 1987		Basra	5 killed, including 1 woman, and 45 wounded, including 4 woman and and 4 children and damage to some houses and property.
23 August 1987		Basra	11 killed, including 2 woman, and 47 wounded, including 4 children and 3 woman, and damage to some houses and property
24 August 1987		Basra	2 wounded
24 August 1987		Baymalik housing complex and Nur al-Din village (Qala Diza)	1 woman wounded
26 August 1987		Basra	Damage to some houses and property

26	August	Basra	1 wounded
1987			
26	August	Baymalik	Damage to some houses and
1987		housing com- plex, Qala Diza	property
27	August	Basra	Damage to some houses and
1987			property
27	August	Basra	Damage to 2 shops, roofing
1987			of Government stores and some houses
28	August	4 villages in	1 wounded
1987		the district of Qala Diza	
28	August	Basra	
1987			
Date		Region	Casualties and damage
15	August	Qala Diza	Damage to some houses and
1987			property
16	August	Al-Uzair	Damage to some houses and
1987			property
16	August	Bayarah	Damage to some houses and
1987			property
16	August	Qazaniyah	Damage to some houses and
1987			property
17	August	Basra	3 killed and 5 wounded, and
1987			damage to some houses and property

17 1987	August	Qala Diza	1 wounded
18 1987	August	Basra	Damage to some houses and property
18 1987	August	Qala Diza	Damage to some houses and property
18 1987	August	Al-Uzair	Damage to some houses and property
19 1987	August	Basra	
20 1987	August	Basra	2 killed and 24 wounded, including 3 woman and 2 children
20 1987	August	Qala Diza	1 wounded, and damage to some houses and property
21 1987	August	Baymalik housing complex	4 killed, including 1 child, and 4 wounded, including 1 woman and 1 child, and damage to some houses and property
22 1987	August	Basra	1 killed and 5 wounded, and damage to some houses and property
22 1987	August	Dohuk (Summel district)	12 killed, including 5 children and 2 woman, and 23 wounded, including 15 children and 4 woman, and damage to some houses and property

22 1987	August	Sulaymanyah	3 wounded, including 1 woman, and damage to some houses and property
22 1987	August	Majar district	1 killed and 11 wounded, including 1 woman, and damage to some houses and property
22 1987	August	Basra	5 killed, including 1 woman, and 45 wounded, including 4 woman and 4 children and damage to some houses and property.
23 1987	August	Basra	11 killed, including 2 woman, and 47 wounded, including 4 children and 3 woman, and damage to some houses and property
24 1987	August	Basra	2 wounded
24 1987	August	Baymalik housing complex and Nur al-Din village (Qala Diza)	1 woman wounded
26 1987	August	Basra	Damage to some houses and property
26 1987	August	Basra	1 wounded

26 1987	August	Baymalik housing com- plex, Qala Diza	Damage to some houses and property
27 1987	August	Basra	Damage to some houses and property
27 1987	August	Basra	Damage to 2 shops, roofing of Government stores and some houses
28 1987	August	4 villages in the district of Qala Diza	1 wounded
28 1987	August	Basra	

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Resolution 598 (1987)

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 2750th meeting,
on 20 July 1987**

**The security Council,
Reaffirming Its resolution 582 (1986),**

Deeply concerned that, despite its calls for a cease-fire, the conflict between Iran and Iraq continues unabated, with further heavy loss of human life and material destruction.

Deploring the initiation and continuation of the conflict,

Deploring also the bombing of purely civilian population centres, attacks on neutral shipping or civilian aircraft, the violation of international humanitarian law and other laws of armed conflict, and, in particular, the use of chemical weapons contrary to obligations under the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

Deeply concerned that further escalation and widening of the conflict may take place.

Determined to bring to an end all military actions between Iran and Iraq,

Convinced that a comprehensive, just, honourable and durable settlement should be achieved between Iran and Iraq.

Recalling the provisions of the Charter of the United

Nations, and in particular the obligation of all Member States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered,

Determining that there exists a breach of the peace as regards the conflict between Iran and Iraq,

Acting under Articles 39 and 40 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Demands that, as a first step towards a negotiated settlement, Iran and Iraq observe an immediate cease-fire, discontinue all military actions on land, at sea and in the air, and withdraw all forces to the internationally recognized boundaries without delay;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to dispatch a team of United Nations Observers to verify, confirm and supervise the cease-fire and withdrawal and further requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements in consultation with the Parties and to submit a report thereon to the Security Council,

3. Urges that prisoners-of-war be released and repatriated without delay after the cessation of active hostilities in accordance with the Third Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949;

4. Calls upon Iran and Iraq to co-operate with the Secretary-General in implementing this resolution and in mediation efforts

to achieve a comprehensive, just and honourable settlement, acceptable to both sides, of all outstanding issues, in accordance with the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations:

5. Calls upon all other States to exercise the utmost restraint and to refrain from any act which may lead to further escalation and widening of the conflict, and thus to facilitate the implementation of the present resolution;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to explore, in consultation with Iran and Iraq, the question of entrusting an impartial body with inquiring into responsibility for the conflict and to report to the Security Council as soon as possible;

7. Recognizes the magnitude of the damage inflicted during the conflict and the need for reconstruction efforts, with appropriate international assistance, once the conflict is ended and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to assign a team of experts to study the question of reconstruction and to report to the Security Council:

8. Further requests the Secretary-General, to examine, in consultation with Iran and Iraq and with other States of the region, measures to enhance the security and stability of the region;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council informed on the implementation of this resolution;

10. Decides to meet again as necessary to consider further steps to ensure compliance with this resolution.

رقم الايداع في المكتبة الوطنية ببغداد (٩٤١) لسنة ١٩٨٧

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